

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 28 Aug. 1950

SUBJECT Stalino Airfields

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1. The Stalino (37°48'E/47°59'N) airfield, Ukrainian SSR, was 2 1/2 km northeast of the Zhetel plant, just south of the road to Chistyakovo (38°38'E/48°01'N). It extended about 5 km along the road in a strip 2 to 3 km wide.

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2. The following buildings and installations were available:

- a. Several hangars, including apparently a new one
- b. A 30-meter high beacon light
- c. Four radio masts, each 10 to 15 meters high

3. The field was occupied by 70 to 80 twin-engine aircraft with single rudder assembly.

4. Parachute jumps from twin-engine aircraft flying in formation of 20 to 25 planes were observed, 15 parachutists each jumping from every plane or only four planes. The parachutists landed in a very small area.

5. AA practices: It was observed several times that the airfield was blanketed by day and that AA guns fired at the attacking aircraft.

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Night practices were occasionally made with all aircraft, with searchlights in operation and flash bombs being released. Four to eight AA guns of at least 88-mm caliber fired at the aircraft attacking at a 6,000 to 7,000-meter altitude.

6. The airfield, about 6 km northwest of Stalino, about 200 meters northwest of the Stalino-Yainovtaya (37°52'E/48°07'N) road, was about 2 x 3 km. The surrounding area was level with slight elevations to the northeast, sloping up slightly to the east and level to the south as far as Stalino. Three construction sites, each about 100-meters long, were in the extension of the field to northeast. Two bulldozers were grading the northwest section of the field. Fellow-PWs said that the field was an old military airfield which had been used by the former German Air Force.
7. The middle section, the southeast edge of the field, and the SE-NW runway were smoothed.
8. There were no hangars but the following buildings and installations:
 - a. An airfield building with quarters, bare brick structure, about 10 x 20 meters
 - b. A fuel and building material dump with wooden sheds, a mobile assembly stand and tank trucks
 - c. A radio cabin, bare brick structure, about 5 x 8 meters, with an umbrella-shaped antenna, mast about 20 meters high
9. The following aircraft were parked at the field:
 - a. One biplane in the fall of 1948 and February 1949
 - b. Three biplanes and three single-engine low-wing monoplanes (nose wheel, in-line engine, leading edge of wings straight, trailing edge tapering, glazed cockpit) on 23 August 1949.
10. Flying:
 - a. One biplane was in the air every day at 8 a.m., noon, and 5 p.m. in the fall of 1948 and February 1949.
 - b. Three biplanes were seen flying at about 2 p.m. on 23 August 1949. A small parachute with a swinging article was released from one plane.

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11. Personnel occupation:

- a. In the fall of 1948 and February 1949: Eight men of a Soviet Air Force weather station.
- b. On 23 August 1949: About 20 soldiers, including 5 officers with a captain as ranking officer.
- c. The sentries were detached from an army unit [REDACTED]

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13. Twin-engine aircraft were seen taking off and landing about 10 km southwest of the field.

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[REDACTED] Comment:

- a. The report does not indicate the pin-point location of the airfield east of Stalino. The field obviously is an improved airport occupied by a parachute unit or school and two air transport regiments during the time of observation.
- b. The airfield [REDACTED] (paras 6 to 12) probably is an old military airfield just north of Stalino. Previous reports stated that this field was occupied by four fighters in 1947 and that there was heavy flying. According to this report the field was improved in 1948/1949 and not occupied by an air unit.
- c. It is assumed from other reports that more occupied airfields exist in the Stalino area.

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